

Claims:

1. A method of determining a cost data relating to a cost of a registered trade mark application, said method characterized by comprising the steps of:

receiving input data describing a trade mark;

receiving input data describing at least one territory;

receiving input data describing a number of classes of goods/services for a said registered trade mark application;

storing component cost data relating to a plurality of component costs of said registered trade mark application in at least one territory; and

calculating substantially in real time said cost data relating to a cost of said registered trade mark application from said stored data.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said calculated cost data is generated by:

reading said stored cost data from a look up table comprising a plurality of individual component costs for each of a plurality of individual territories; and

adding a plurality of said individual component costs to obtain said calculated cost data.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

displaying said calculated cost substantially in real time.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

calculating said calculated data cost in a plurality of different currencies.

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5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of calculating comprises calculating a said calculated cost in a first currency, and converting said calculated cost to a second currency.

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6. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

making said calculated cost data available for substantially real time display.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of storing data comprises, for each of a plurality of territories:

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storing at least one official fee cost data relating to an official fee payable to a governmental/intergovernmental body; and

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storing at least one vendor fee cost data relating to a vendor fee charged by a vendor of trade mark services.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of calculating a cost substantially in real time comprises the steps of:

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reading from a look up table, a vendor filing cost;

reading from said look up table an official fee for filing said trade mark; and

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adding said vendor filing fee cost and said official filing fee cost.

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9. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of receiving data describing a trade mark comprises inputting a bitmap representing a two dimensional image of said trade mark.

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10. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of storing data relating to cost of said registered trade mark application in said country comprises:

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for each of a plurality of territories, storing data describing;

a plurality of official fee component costs, describing individual official fees for various operations;

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a plurality of vendor fee component costs, each describing a vendor fee levied for a specific service;

a plurality of associate fee component costs, each describing a cost for a service for a specified item levied by an associate.

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11. The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

reading from said look up table a vendor priority cost data for claiming a priority; and

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adding said vendor priority cost data to said vendor filing cost and said official filing fee cost.

12. The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

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reading from said look up table a vendor seniority cost for claiming a seniority; and

adding said vendor seniority cost to said vendor filing cost and said official filing fee cost.

13. The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of:

reading from said look up table a vendor designation cost for designation of a territory; and

adding said vendor designation cost to said vendor filing fee cost and said official filing fee cost.

14. A method of determining a cost of a registered trade mark application via an online interactive trading system, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a trade mark;

inputting a specification of goods/services relating to said trade mark;

inputting at least one territory for said trade mark, said method characterized by;

displaying a substantially real time calculated cost of applying for said trade mark in said at least one territory, for said specification of goods/services.

15. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said step of displaying comprises making said real time calculated cost available for display via a web server apparatus.

5 16. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

modifying a specification of goods/services by selecting/deselecting classes of goods/services;

10 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified specification of goods/services.

17. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

15 said step of inputting a specification of goods/services comprises inputting a plurality of goods/services categorised in more than one class of a classification system; and

20 said specification of goods/services is selected from a display comprising a plurality of class icons, each representing an individual class of goods/services.

18. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

25 said step of inputting a specification of goods/services comprises inputting a plurality of goods/services categorized in at least one class of a classification system; and

modifying said input specification of goods/services so that said modified goods/services are categorized in a different number of classes of said categorization system;

5 wherein, said cost of said registered trade mark application is calculated substantially in real time to account for modifications to said specification of goods/services.

10 19. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

 said step of inputting at least one territory for said trade mark comprises selecting a plurality of territories from a menu display listing said plurality of territories, said method further comprising the steps of:

15 modifying a selection of said territories by selecting/deselecting individual territory icons on a screen display, to obtain a modified selection of territories;

 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified selection of territories.

20 20. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

 inputting at least one priority claim;

25 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to reflect a modified cost of said trade mark including said at least one priority claim.

 21. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

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inputting a selection of at least one priority claim for claiming a priority right from at least one earlier trade mark; and

modifying said selection of said at least one priority claim by selecting/
5 deselecting at least one said priority claim to obtain a modified priority claim selection;

wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to represent a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified selection.

10 22. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

inputting at least one seniority claim for claiming seniority from at least one earlier trade mark;

15 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time according to said input of at least one seniority claim.

20 23. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

inputting a selection of at least one seniority claim, for claiming a seniority right from at least one earlier trade mark; and

25 modifying said selection of at least one seniority claim by selecting/deselecting a said at least one seniority claim to obtain a modified seniority claim selection;

wherein said displayed cost is recalculated substantially in real time to represent a modified cost of said trade mark for said modified selection.

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24. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

inputting at least one designated territory for a regional trade mark;

5 wherein said displayed cost is recalculated in real time according to said input of said at least one designated territory.

25. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:

10 displaying a set of component costs used for calculating said substantially real time calculated costs; and

selecting/deselecting individual said component costs to modify said real time calculated cost of said trade mark.

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26. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

selecting a currency of a plurality of different currencies, in which said cost is displayed.

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27. The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said component costs comprise costs selected from the set:

official fees payable to governmental/intergovernmental bodies; and

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vendor fees levied by a vendor providing a trade mark service.

28. The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

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displaying a said component cost in a currency selected from a plurality of different currencies.

29. A method of activating a registered trade mark application via an online interactive trade system, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an input trade mark data describing a trade mark;

receiving an input specification of goods/services relating to the trade mark;

receiving an input selection of at least one territory for said trade mark; characterized by

displaying a substantially real time calculated cost of said trade mark in said at least one territory for said specification of goods/services.

30. A user interface display configured for displaying for a trade mark:

a plurality of classes of goods/services relating to said trade mark;

at least one territory relating to said trade mark; and

a substantially real time calculated cost relating to said trade mark.

31. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying a number of priority claims relating to said trade mark.

32. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying a number of seniority claims relating to said trade mark.

33. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying a number of designated territories relating to said trade mark.

5 34. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured for displaying a number of classes of goods/services relating to said trade marks.

35. The user interface as claimed in claim 30, configured to display for a trade mark:

10 a plurality of territories, and for each said territory;

a number of selected classes of goods/services;

15 a number of priority claims; and

a cost of applying for said trade mark in said territory.

36. A method of online trading, for instructing a registered trade mark application, said method comprising:

20 generating a display window for a trade mark, said display window displaying:

25 a list of individual territories relating to said trade mark;

for each said territory, a list of classes of goods/services of said trade mark in said territory;

30 for each said territory, a cost of said trade mark;

wherein said cost is calculated substantially in real time.

37. The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein said display window is also configured for displaying;

whether a priority claim is made for said mark in a said territory;

wherein, any of said priority claim, said seniority claim, or any said class of goods/services may be interactively selected/deselected, and wherein

38. A user interface for an online trading system, for filing a registered trade mark application, said user interface comprising:

a currency conversion window activated as an expansion of said cost calculator window, said currency conversion window capable of converting a cost from a first currency to a second currency, said cost selected from:

a total filing cost of a trade mark application in an individual territory;

an official fee; a vendor fee charged by a vendor for providing a trade mark service; an associate fee charged by an associate for performing a trade mark service.

39. Means for generating a user interface display for displaying data relating to a trade mark, said data comprising:

data describing said trade mark;

10 data describing at least one territory relating to said trade mark;

data describing at least one class of goods/services relating to said trade mark;

15 data relating to a cost of said trade mark;

said means comprising:

means for storing of component cost data for a trade mark in each of a
20 plurality of territories;

means for calculating substantially in real time, a cost of said trade mark in at least one said territory.

25 40. Means as claimed in claim 39, further comprising a web server
allowing said display to be viewed from a plurality of remote locations.

41. Means as claimed in claim 39, wherein said means for calculating substantially in real time a cost of said trade mark, calculates said cost from an

input data received from a customer terminal, and said stored component cost data.

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